

## IN THE CLAIMS

### Complete listing of the claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus for receiving that receives an electronic mail, so as to create a print product according to contents of said electronic mail, said image forming apparatus comprising:

a receiving section to receive said electronic mail data including image data and finishing information for image forming operation based on said image data representing a post processing to be applied to said print product created on the basis of said image data;

an acquiring section to acquire said image data and said finishing information, separately from said electronic mail data;

a finishing information judging section to compare said finishing information with finishing contents processible for said apparatus determine whether or not said post processing, represented by said finishing information, is provided in said image forming apparatus itself as an applicable post processing;

a selecting-determining section to select-determine whether or not a changing operation of said finishing information is necessary should be changed, when said finishing information includes a finishing content unprocessible for said apparatus judging section determines that said post processing is not provided in said image forming apparatus itself; and

a finish setting establishing section to conduct-establish a set of finish setting operation to be applied to said print product based on a result of a selecting operation conducted by said selecting-made by said determining section.

2. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

an electronic mail analyzing section to acquire said image data and said finishing information included in said electronic mail by analyzing said electronic mail, when receiving said electronic mail wherein said acquiring section includes an electronic mail analyzing section to analyze said electronic mail so as to acquire said image data and said finishing information, separately from said electronic mail.

3. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

~~an apparatus finishing a post processing~~ content storing section to store said ~~finishing~~ content ~~processable for said apparatus~~ a content of post processing provided in advance in said image forming apparatus itself as applicable post processing.

4. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 1,

wherein, when said finishing information judging section determines that said ~~finishing information do not include said finishing content unprocessable for said apparatus as a comparison result, said finishing information is applied for said finish setting operation as it is~~ post processing is provided in said image forming apparatus itself, said finish setting establishing section establishes said set of finish setting, according to said finishing information directly acquired from said electronic mail.

5. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 2,

wherein said electronic mail analyzing section includes a finishing information rule storing section to store a rule with respect to a description of said finishing information, and analyzes said electronic mail data based on a content stored in said finishing information rule storing section to acquire said finishing information, when analyzing said electronic mail data.

6. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 5,

wherein said finishing information rule storing section stores a tag description and said finishing information while correlating them with each other.

7. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

a notifying section to notify a sender of said electronic mail, when said finishing information ~~of said electronic mail includes said finishing content unprocessable for said apparatus~~ judging section determines that said post processing is not provided in said image forming apparatus itself.

8. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 7,

wherein said notifying section notifies said sender of a fact that said ~~finishing~~  
~~information includes said finishing content unprocessable for said apparatus and a processing~~  
~~content corresponding to said fact~~post processing, represented by said finishing information,  
is not provided in said image forming apparatus itself as said applicable post processing, and  
of another applicable post processing corresponding thereto.

9. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

a notifying section to notify a sender of said ~~finishing content processible for said~~  
~~apparatus~~electronic mail of content of post processing applicable in said image forming  
apparatus itself.

10. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 1,

wherein ~~finishing contents are different from each other depending on senders~~said  
applicable post processing differs depending on a sender of said electronic mail.

11. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

an individual-sender finishing content storing section to store identifying information  
for an individual-sender and a finishing content, which is allowed for said individual-sender,  
while correlating them with each other.

12. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

a sender rejecting section to stop an image-forming operation based on said image data  
included in said electronic mail, when an address of a sender coincides with a rejecting  
address established in advance.

13. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

a sender restricting section to allow an image-forming operation based on said image  
data included in said electronic mail, only when an address of a sender coincides with an  
allowed address established in advance.

14. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:  
an image-forming section to conduct an image-forming operation based on said image data.

15. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:  
a finishing section to apply ~~a finish~~ said post processing to ~~a formed image~~ said print product; and  
wherein said finishing section performs ~~said finish~~ processing based on said set of finish setting.

16. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus ~~for receiving~~ that receives an electronic mail, so as to create a print product according to contents of said electronic mail, said image forming apparatus comprising:

a receiving section to receive said electronic mail ~~data~~ including image data and finishing information ~~for image forming operation based on said image data~~ representing a post processing to be applied to said print product created on the basis of said image data;

an acquiring section to acquire said image data and said finishing information, separately from said electronic mail ~~data~~;

a finishing information judging section to ~~compare said finishing information with a finishing content processible for said apparatus~~ determine whether or not said post processing, represented by said finishing information, is provided in said image forming apparatus itself as an applicable post processing; and

a process selecting section to select whether a processing operation should be proceeded or stopped, when said finishing information ~~includes a finishing content unprocessable for said apparatus as a comparison result conducted in said finishing information judging section~~ judging section determines that said post processing is not provided in said image forming apparatus itself.

17. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus for receiving that receives an electronic mail, so as to create a print product according to contents of said electronic mail, said image forming apparatus comprising:

a receiving section to receive said electronic mail data-including image data and finishing information for image-forming operation based on said image data-representing a post processing to be applied to said print product created on the basis of said image data;

an acquiring section to acquire said image data and said finishing information, separately from said electronic mail-data;

a finishing information judging section to ~~compare said finishing information with a finishing content processible for said apparatus~~determine whether or not said post processing, represented by said finishing information, is provided in said image forming apparatus itself as an applicable post processing; and

a process stopping section to stop a finish processing, when said finishing information includes a finishing content unprocessable for said apparatus as a comparison result conducted in said finishing information-judging section determines that said post processing is not provided in said image forming apparatus itself.

18. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus for receiving that receives an electronic mail, so as to create a print product according to contents of said electronic mail, said image forming apparatus comprising:

a receiving section to receive said electronic mail data-including image data and finishing information for image-forming operation based on said image data-representing a post processing to be applied to said print product created on the basis of said image data;

an acquiring section to acquire said image data and said finishing information, separately from said electronic mail-data;

a finishing information judging section to ~~compare said finishing information with a finishing content processible for said apparatus~~determine whether or not said post processing, represented by said finishing information, is provided in said image forming apparatus itself as an applicable post processing; and

a finish setting establishing section to conduct~~establish~~ a set of finish setting to be  
applied to said print product;  
~~operation, which does not include a finishing content unprocessable for said apparatus, after~~  
~~changing said finishing information in respect to said finishing content unprocessable for said~~  
~~apparatus, when said finishing information includes said finishing content unprocessable for~~  
~~said apparatus as a comparison result conducted in said finishing information judging section~~  
wherein, when said finishing information judging section determines that said post  
processing is not provided in said image forming apparatus itself, said finish setting  
establishing section changes said finishing information, so that said set of finish setting does  
not include said post processing.

19. (Currently Amended) A system for communicating an electronic mail, ~~said system~~  
comprising:

an electronic mail creating apparatus to create an electronic mail data including image  
data and finishing information; and

~~an electronic mail receiving apparatus that includes a receiving section to receive said~~  
~~electronic mail data including said image data and said finishing information transmitted by~~  
~~said electronic mail creating apparatus, and a finishing information judging section to~~  
~~compare said finishing information with a finishing content processible for said apparatus, to~~  
~~conduct an image forming operation based on said finishing information~~an image forming  
apparatus that receives said electronic mail transmitted from said electronic mail creating  
apparatus, so as to create a print product according to contents of said electronic mail;

wherein said image forming apparatus includes:

a receiving section to receive said electronic mail including said image data  
and said finishing information representing a post processing to be applied to said print  
product created on the basis of said image data;

a finishing information judging section to determine whether or not said post  
processing, represented by said finishing information, is provided in said image forming  
apparatus itself as an applicable post processing; and

wherein said ~~electronic mail receiving~~image forming apparatus notify said electronic mail creating apparatus, when said finishing information includes said ~~finishing content unprocessable for said apparatus as a comparison result conducted in said finishing information judging section~~judging section determines that said post processing is not provided in said image forming apparatus itself.

20. (Currently Amended) A system for communicating an electronic mail, said system comprising:

an electronic mail creating apparatus to create an electronic mail data including image data and finishing information; and

~~an electronic mail receiving apparatus that includes a receiving section to receive said electronic mail data including said image data and said finishing information transmitted by said electronic mail creating apparatus, to conduct an image forming operation based on said finishing information;~~an image forming apparatus that receives said electronic mail transmitted from said electronic mail creating apparatus, so as to create a print product according to contents of said electronic mail;

wherein said image forming apparatus includes:

a receiving section to receive said electronic mail including said image data and said finishing information representing a post processing to be applied to said print product created on the basis of said image data; and

wherein said ~~electronic mail receiving~~image forming apparatus notify said electronic mail creating apparatus of ~~finishing information processible for said electronic mail receiving apparatus~~information of post processing applicable in said image forming apparatus itself,  
~~corresponding to~~in response to an inquiry received from said electronic mail creating apparatus ~~to said electronic mail receiving apparatus.~~

21. (Currently Amended) A system for communicating an electronic mail, said system comprising:

an electronic mail creating apparatus that acquires image data and an address of a ~~receiver~~an image forming apparatus when creating said electronic mail, to create electronic

mail data including said image data, said address of said ~~receiver~~ image forming apparatus and finishing information ~~for forming an image based on said image data~~; and  
an ~~electronic mail receiving~~ image forming apparatus described in claim 1.

22. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for ~~communicating~~ creating an electronic mail, said apparatus comprising:

an acquiring section to acquire said image data and an address of ~~a receiver~~ an image forming apparatus, serving as a receiver of said electronic mail; and

an electronic mail creating section to create electronic mail data including ~~finishing information described by said image data, said address of said receiver~~ image forming apparatus of said electronic mail and finishing information described in a tag.

23. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 22,

wherein said finishing information ~~includes~~ represent at least one of post processing including a designation of color or ~~black and white~~ monochrome, a designation of enlargement or reduction and a designation of a punching operation.

24. (Original) The apparatus of claim 22,

wherein said finishing information are described in a main description of said electronic mail.

25. (Original) The apparatus of claim 22,

wherein said finishing information are described in a header of said electronic mail.

26. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 23, further comprising:

an image data acquiring section to acquire said image data;

~~a receiver~~ an address acquiring section to acquire said address of said image forming apparatus, serving as said receiver of said electronic mail;

a finishing information acquiring section to acquire said finishing information ~~for forming an image~~; and



an electronic mail data generating section to generate said electronic mail data including said address of said ~~receiver~~ image forming apparatus, said finishing information and said image data.

27. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 26,

wherein said electronic mail data generating section ~~is so constituted that it generates~~ said electronic mail data, ~~which has so that~~ said electronic mail data include said address at a header, said finishing information provided as a main description and said image data ~~added~~ attached to said main description.

28. (Original) The apparatus of claim 26,

wherein said image data acquiring section is provided with an image data storing section in which said image data are stored.

29. (Original) The apparatus of claim 26,

wherein said image data acquiring section is provided with a scanner for reading an image to generate said image data.

30. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 26,

wherein said receiver acquiring section is provided with a receiver inputting section for setting a receiver by ~~means of~~ an inputting operation of a sending operator.

31. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 26,

wherein said receiver acquiring section is provided with a receiver storing section for ~~memorizing~~ storing a receiver.

32. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 26,

wherein said finishing information acquiring section is provided with a finishing information inputting section for setting said finishing information by ~~means of~~ an inputting operation of a sending operator.

33. (Original) The apparatus of claim 26,  
wherein said finishing information acquiring section can acquire only such finishing information that are described by a rule established in advance.
34. (Original) The apparatus of claim 33,  
wherein said rule relates to a description by a tag.
35. (Original) The apparatus of claim 26,  
wherein said finishing information acquiring section is provided with a finishing content storing section for storing finishing content data being acquirable.
36. (Original) The apparatus of claim 26, further comprising:  
a model finishing content storing section to store a finishing content being processible as data of every model for a finishing section.
37. (Original) The apparatus of claim 26, further comprising:  
a receiver model data storing section that stores model data of a finishing section provided in said receiver while correlating it to receiver identifying information.
38. (Original) The apparatus of claim 26,  
wherein said apparatus is so constituted that said apparatus acquires receiver identifying information to identify a receiver, and can select a finishing content being usable for a finishing section provided in said receiver.
39. (Original) The apparatus of claim 26,  
wherein said apparatus is so constituted that said apparatus acquires receiver identifying information, and acquires receiver model data from said receiver model data storing section, based on said receiver identifying information, and acquires a finishing

content being selectable from model finishing content storing section, based on said model data.

40. (Original) The apparatus of claim 26, further comprising:

an inquiring section to inquire a finishing content being processible for a receiver from said receiver.

41. (Original) The apparatus of claim 40,

wherein, when said inquiring section obtains said finishing content being processible for said receiver, said finishing information acquiring section can acquire only such finishing information that are limited within said finishing content.

42. (Original) The apparatus of claim 26, further comprising:

a communicating section to communicate said electronic mail by coupling to a network.